

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the amendments set forth above and the remarks set forth below.

Claim 1 Has Been Amended

Claim 1 was objected to and the Office Action suggested amending the first instance of “the” to -- a --. Applicant has incorporated this suggested change into Claim 1.

Applicant also incorporated the limitations of Claim 5 into Claim 1. Claim 5 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to recite the limitations of Claim 5.

Applicant does not necessarily agree with the basis for the rejection and Applicant reserves the right to perfect its priority claim, which would predate any prior art date of DE 102 47 492.

In view of the amendments set forth above, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Application No.: 10/597,941
Filing Date: June 21, 2007

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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